

Minutes of the Tuesday, April 6, 2010 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, R. Barrett, L. Caprioglio, S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, S. Hoag, D. Stillinger, Township Liaison William O'Connor, Associate CTEC members Shankar Krishnan and Subashree Rajagopal, and Marta McDowell, organizer of the Community Garden of the Chathams.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2010 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

F. Esposito motioned to approve CTEC and Green Team minutes from March 2, 2010 and S. Carroll 2nd with all in favor.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND JANUARY 2011.

Every first Tuesday, except no meeting in July, at 7:15 PM at the Chatham Township municipal building. The dates are Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, July no meeting, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2010 and Jan 11, 2011.

GREEN TEAM MEETING (convened 7:27 pm – adjourned 8:10 pm)

- Reviewed status of Sustainable Jersey Program, reviewed planned Sustainable Jersey actions. Received Municipal Energy Audit in February, 2010, presented to Township Committee, all recommends for 3 or less years payback were added to Capital Budget. Received 30 points toward Sustainable Jersey which will be sent to State. Kathy Abbott motioned to approved memo to Township Committee regarding Community Partners Initiative and Sustainable Jersey Energy Outreach and Incentive Programs and Pat Collington 2nd, with all in favor. S. Carroll, Green Team Chair.

GRANT

CTEC has been granted a free copy of ArcView for 2010 by the ESRI Corporation. Any EC member is welcome to use it.

REPORTS

- Open Space Committee report. "Right of 1st Refusal" letters sent to a dozen property owners. Mrs. Hoag also spoke of two lectures she attended at Montclair University regarding NJ Land Trust Rally. S. Hoag.
- Planning Board report. The Planning Board reviewed and responded to 55 Mountain Ave. and reviewed draft of land use element. Mr. Caprioglio discussed the Planning Board's site visit to Rolling Knolls Superfund site regarding determination of redevelopment. Commission members viewed map of Rolling Knolls and discussed at length about the development of this property. They have strong feelings regarding the redevelopment of this property. L. Caprioglio.
- Township Committee report. Board of Health considering a new noise ordinance. Work started on Castle park. Revised soil movement ordinance under consideration. W. O'Connor
- Community Education and Outreach Committee report. Films to be featured at Chatham Library are: Food Inc., and the Future of Food. Rain barrel & Compost orders due Friday, April 9. April 15 Chatham Library lawn care "Chemical" movie. Approval of Pesticide subcommittee's memo to administrator and township committee regarding pesticide free zone at Colony Pool. D. Stillinger motioned to approve memo and S. Carroll 2nd, with all in favor. Memo will circulate by email for review and edits. K. Abbott & P. Collington

Commission discussed letter written by Abbie Fair to DEP, opposing solar panels in wetlands. S. Carroll suggested more information is needed to make a better determination.

Commission members approved new design on letterhead paper.

- Website Committee report. S. Carroll motioned to approve placing the updated conservation easement map on the website, L. Caprioglio 2nd, with all in favor. F. Esposito.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- Rolling Knolls Superfund site. Review for possible approval memo to Planning Board. Decision that the memo was premature, will not send.
- Eighth Annual Riverside Cleanup Saturday April 17 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Choose tasks. Suggestion to put out "Slow Down - Kids at Work" signs on Passaic Street/River Road.
- July tax mailing is an inexpensive way to distribute the pesticide brochure or any other EC material.

ISSUES

- Shunpike Field construction will begin using non tire crumb rubber. K. Abbott.
- Possible Ten Towns Committee or Great Swamp Watershed Association ROW vegetation management plan. PSE&G and JCP&L are cooperating. Ten Towns Committee will go out of existence on June 30, possibly turning over to GSWA some functions. K. Abbott, D. Stillinger.

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

- NEW. Notice of public hearing on PSE&G application to NJDEP for wetlands and flood area permits for the Roseland-Susquehanna line upgrade on April 28, 2010 in Jefferson. CTEC comment letter sent in February 2010, no further action by CTEC required.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- March 2010. Letter to NJDEP regarding wetlands permit application for Block 140, Lot 4.03. Comment to National Park Service via NPS website concerning PSE&G transmission lines through the Delaware Water Gap National Park.
- February 2010. Letter to DEP mentioning Water Ambassador Adam Osborn's excellent assistance at the Feb. 11 water symposium. Thank you letters sent to volunteers who helped with the Feb. 11 CTEC water symposium. Letter to NJDEP regarding 20 Evergreen Road application for wetlands permit for placement of pavement. Letters to DEP officials Reilly, Bello, Cattuna regarding PSE&G notice of application for wetlands permits for vegetation maintenance under power lines.
- January 2010. Letter to NJDEP regarding JCP&L application for wetlands permits for vegetation maintenance in wetlands along ROWs.
- December 2009. Letter to NJDEP requesting a public hearing on JCP&L's application for permits to disturb wetlands.
- November 2009. New conservation easement property owner letter sent to 42 Mountain Ave.

MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Various flyers, notices, and newsletters.

ADJOURN

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:00 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli
Minutes Secretary